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CERTIFICATION BY FACSIMILE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being sent by facsimile transmission in accordance with § 1.6(d) addressed to Art Unit 1656, Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 to Facsimile No. (571) 273-8300 on the date indicated below.

Date: September 25, 2006By: Mari Kleineidam
Mari Kleineidam

PATENT
Attorney Docket No. GC716-2-US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of)	Group Art Unit: 1656
)	
Poulose <i>et al.</i>)	Examiner: Moore, William W.
)	
Serial No.: 10/500,943)	
)	
Filed: April 20, 2005)	
)	
For: Multiply-Substituted Protease)	
Variants)	

Amendment and Response to Office Action Mailed March 27, 2006

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed March 27, 2006, Applicants respectfully request that the following amendments be made. Applicants also petition for a three (3) month extension of time to file the present Response. Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2, while a complete list of the Claims, including marked-up versions of the rewritten, added, withdrawn, and/or cancelled claims is provided below, beginning on page 9. None of the amendments to the Claims is intended to narrow the scope of any of the amended Claims within the meaning of *Festo*¹. The Remarks begin on page 11 and the Conclusion is on page 16.

¹ *Festo Corp. v. Shoketsu Kogyo Kabushiki Co.*, No. 95-1066, 2000 WL 1753646 (Fed. Cir. Nov. 29, 2000).
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